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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2012

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INPORT NEWS

SERVING PORT COLBORNE • WAINFLEET • SHERKSTON • LOWBANKS • ISSUE NO. 46 VOLUME 18

For news updated daily see www.inportnews.ca

■ **WAINFLEET:** Annual Christmas in the Village

A Christmas tradition

VICTORIA GRAY
InPort News Staff

WAINFLEET — Dan Rykse volunteers in the carpentry shop at Marshville Heritage Village and spends months making old fashioned wooden toys for the hundreds of children who attend Christmas in the Village every year.

He wants to help make Christmas special for children because he believes he owes a debt to Canada.

In 1945, at five-years-old, Rykse lived in a small village in Holland that was liberated by Canadian soldiers.

"One of the soldiers threw me a chocolate bar and a pack of gum," he said.

"I tear up every time I think about it. He will never know how much that meant to me."

For the last 25 years he's tried to make other children grateful by handing them a little piece of playful history in the carpentry shop. Carson Cryslar, 7, was one of those lucky children on Sunday afternoon at the village in Wainfleet who received a table wooden table hockey game.

Ryxse didn't make it, the game was donated to the village by Open Arms Mission, but he still loved seeing the smile on Cryslar's face.

"I play hockey, so I can practice some of passes, but with a penny," he said.

On the other side of the

carpentry shop, Father Christmas gave out candy canes, knitted scarves and mittens while children and parents helped themselves to fresh kettle corn and homemade fudge.

Zack Amereson said his son three-year-old son Lukas spent all weekend asking to go to the village and even wrote a letter for Father Christmas.

Every building was packed and most had line-ups to get in. In the general store children decorated gingerbread and sugar cookie men, then went to the other side and saw toys and books from the 1900's.

see CHRISTMAS | Page 2



VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo
Volunteer in the carpentry workshop at Marshville Heritage Village's Christmas in the Village Dan Rykse shows Carson Cryslar how some of the old fashion wooden toys work.

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■ CHRISTMAS



VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo

Hundreds of people attended Christmas in the Village at Marshallville Heritage Village this year. Almost every building had a line out the door to get in.

Christmas Village annually kicks off the holiday season

FROM PAGE 1

Heather Haining and her daughters have come for the last five years because it's become a Christmas tradition

for five-year-old Hillary and one-year-old Addyson.

"It really gets the season started," Haining said. "We just love the old fashioned style and the way

it brings the community together."

Hot apple cider brewed over an open fire outside while carolers from Christ Anglican Church sang in

the manger, the blacksmiths were hard at work making candle holders and roasting forks.

Blacksmith Roh Kuret said knowing how crafty people

were is neat.

"The skills they had shouldn't be forgotten," he said.

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Twitter: @VickyG



VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo
Dylan Tanguay loved the free treats at Christmas in the Village.



VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo
Four-year-old Linnea Amadio couldn't get enough history at Christmas in the Village.



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■ ANNUAL CAMPAIGN: Ribbon of Lights campaign kicks off

Support from community overwhelming

VICTORIA GRAY
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Allenah Vanderlaan Bradley stood in front of over 50 people and pushed a magic button to light the hearts and minds of Port Colborne residents.

The six-year-old helped turn on Christmas Lights during Port Colborne Hospital Foundation's 19th annual Ribbon of Lights Kick-off at the hospital on Sugarloaf St. last week.



The need for this equipment is now. The list of things we need gets longer and longer and we can only get the essentials — and sometimes not even those."

Debbie Spraggett,
Foundation administrator

McKay Public School primary and junior choirs sang four Christmas carols for parents and supporters before everyone joined Santa Claus in the lobby for hot chocolate, Timbitts and to sit on Santa's knee.

Foundation administrator Debbie Spraggett said support from the community has been overwhelming this year.

This year, the campaign raised more than \$20,000 to purchase an ECG machine for the hospital's laboratory, modern electric beds with custom patient mattresses and many other items.

"The need for this equipment is now," Spraggett said. "The list of things we need gets longer and longer and we can only get the essentials — and sometimes not even those."

Cheryl Riel, of Wainfleet, thinks every city should have a hospital and loves seeing people support it.

"I think it's really neat that they do this," she said. "I was born and raised in Hamilton and I'd never heard



The McKay primary and junior choir performed Christmas carols at the Port Colborne Hospital Foundation's 19th annual Ribbon of Lights Kick off before rushing in to meet Santa Claus and enjoy hot chocolate.

VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo

of anything like this. It's so nice to see the community coming together to support healthcare."

This year the hospital foundation has committed to raising \$60,000 to check many items off the list.

Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badway said the crowd was the largest he had seen in a long time.

"It just shows how strong the support for the hospital is in the community," he said. "A lot of people think the hospital is going away, it's not, but it's so important to support it."

Spraggett told the audience the government doesn't pay for equipment at hospitals and it's up to communities to come together to support each other.

"Although we are all facing changes and challenges in healthcare our foundation remains focused on fundraising to benefit the patients at this hospital," she said.

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VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo

Port Colborne Hospital foundation celebrated their 19th annual Ribbon of Lights festival with a crowd of more than 50.

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ourview

Protecting Niagara River from environmental disaster

In the early 1980s, the Love Canal neighbourhood in Niagara Falls, N.Y., became the environmental bogeyman for residents on both sides of the Niagara River and millions who relied on Lake Ontario drinking water.

Described as one of the most appalling environmental tragedies in American history, the location was found to contain 21,000 tons of toxic chemicals.

It would take 21 years and \$400 million to clean up the mess, which resulted in the creation of the Superfund National Priorities List, a fund dedicated to cleaning up the most hazardous toxic waste sites.

The Love Canal is now one of three Superfund sites in Niagara County, N.Y., that have been de-listed. Three remain: and Niagara Regional Chair Gary Burroughs is nearing completion of a letter asking the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency not to scratch the Hooker-Hyde Park chemical waste site from the list. The site, located near the Robert Moses Hydroelectric Power Station in Niagara Falls, N.Y., contains 80,000 tons of waste, including dioxins and volatile organic compounds.

While the EPA argues the chemicals are contained, Burroughs feels there's still a danger of toxins reaching the Niagara River. He's worried that if the site is taken off the list, it won't be treated as seriously.

The EPA says no decision has been made, and if the site is de-listed, inspections will be done every five years to ensure needed maintenance gets done. If there are problems, the agency makes sure they're fixed. A big problem can see the site put back on the Superfund list.

Ontario Environment Minister Jim Bradley feels the Superfund sites are still being found in a creek that leaches into the Niagara River and Ontario. Bradley wrote the EPA urging it to back off until there's no longer any contamination going into the river from the Hyde Park site.

Hopefully politicians on both sides of the border will continue their lobbying efforts to ensure the Hyde Park trouble spot remains on the Superfund National Priorities List until there's not a single drop of contaminants making its way into the water supplies of millions on both sides of Lake Ontario.

Given the dramatic increase in severe weather caused by global warming, the risk of extreme rainfalls overwhelming containment facilities is something that can't be discounted.

We should learn from our mistakes and be over-cautious when dealing with these atrocious man-made mistakes.

■ COLUMN

PASTOR JEEVA SAM
Morgan's Point and Forks Road
East United Church

If you have had enough to eat, honey doesn't taste good; but if you are really hungry, you will eat anything. (Proverbs 27:7)

Over the past 29 years of marriage, Sulojana and I have had the opportunity to serve meals at our house to literally hundreds of guests, family, friends, acquaintances and even total strangers.

I vividly recall two separate occasions where the guests had diametrically opposite responses to the food that was placed in front of them.

One time we invited some people who had just met for a meal, mainly because they were from our home country and were living away from their family in our town. We cooked what we could. Yet Indian meal we could prepare.

They came, sat down at the dining table, gulped down the meal with no appreciation whatsoever and promptly left right afterwards, dashing our hopes of visiting with them and getting to know them better.

On the second occasion, we were asked by a friend to put up for the night two young Korean missionaries she had met at the mall. When they got to our house, Sulojana discovered that they hadn't eaten dinner. She quickly put together a meal for the newcomers in the fridge. Not only did they wolf it down speedily, they had seconds and thirds and could not stop thanking her for the delicious food that they had just eaten.

You don't have to be a food critic specializing in Indian food to know that the first group of guests were treated to a very good meal. Yet we were not all that grateful.

These two Korean young men, on the other hand, could not contain their gratitude for the rather plain food that we had served them.

What was the difference? It was their heart of hunger.

The first group were all professionals, who had the income to afford eating out. They had likely enjoyed a good lunch earlier in the day. They did not really need the meal we served. Had we not invited them, they would have simply found a restaurant to satisfy their hunger.

The second group, on the other hand, were missionaries who lived by faith. They had no money, they relied entirely on the goodness of God and the kindness of strangers for their provision. We learned that they had slept the night before in a sleeping bag under a tree and had not eaten anything the whole of the day when they got to our place.

Isn't it true that our level of hunger determines how much we appreciate the Presence of God as well?

It used to puzzle me when I would hear totally different responses to the same worship service—some liberally sprinkled with gratitude, others punctuated by ruthless criticism.

Then I dawned on me that what made the difference was not the content of the service, but the hunger level of the congregants.

Those who came hungry devoured crumbs as though they were caviar, while those who came without hunger for more complained about the presentation of the caviar!

One of the best prayers that we could ever pray is simply this: "Lord, please give me the grace to remain hungry always for more of you."

Will you pray it with me now?

■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A 'puff piece' on turbines

Re: Strong opinions, honest reflections on wind turbines.

How did it yet again get the Tribune News its name to a puff piece regarding industrial wind turbines that seeks to minimize the negative health impacts and property devaluation by being glibly dismissed by those forced to live in proximity to these industrial developments.

How sad to include "honest reflections" as if it makes this report somehow credible.

This "information trip" was arranged by the industrial wind energy industry in an attempt to change the minds of councilors who had already voted in favour of a motion in support of the concerns of its own citizens regarding the threat of a huge Industrial Wind Machine development planned for their own community.

The wind energy company concerned, NRCW, should choose Chatham-Kent as the location and finance a lunch with a mayor who has been committed to these machines from the beginning, regardless of the growing concerns

of his own citizens, is hardly surprising.

The association promoting these industrial wind machines, CANWEA, acting on behalf of the industrial wind energy industry have themselves publicly admitted that up to 15% of those living in proximity to these Industrial Wind Machines may suffer some negative impacts.

A growing number of realtors and home associations have reported that properties within sight of these industrial leviathans will suffer a loss in value. In cases where property owners are driven from their homes the property can become unsellable and so suffer a 100% property devaluation.

Finally, the Tribune owes an apology to its readers for printing misinformation given by the wind energy company spokesperson. She stated that the height of these industrial machines is 124 metres. This is hub height and she conveniently ignores the fact that the blades will add a further 55 metres to that height.

That's an additional 8 kms and all the properties within that distance that will be negatively impacted. Please Tribune, make some attempt to verify the facts before using the word 'honest'.

Andrew Watts
Wainfleet

Rose for Fleet's fight

Re: Tribune byline in May I wish to compliment Mayor April Jeffs and the Township of Wainfleet for challenging the province of Ontario and Wainfleet Wind Energy Inc. regarding the proliferation and regulation of wind turbines. There is a saying, "Just because you can doesn't make it right."

It applies to the actions taken toward the concerns of Wainfleet township.

The province of Ontario—or more specifically the Liberal government through the Green Energy Act—has forced wind turbines onto north Ontario.

This is appalling in itself but when local corporate citizens use

this legal enforcement to fight small townships such as Wainfleet

the Township of Wainfleet is not trying to put the building of wind turbines; it is trying to have wind turbines positioned so they provide the least harm to its residents.

The rush to make profits before the proposed review of the Green Energy Act in 2014 seems to be that is driving companies such as Wainfleet Wind Energy.

It's like they think they need to get it done now before the government changes its mind.

There is so much that still needs to be studied and reviewed regarding wind turbines, like health issues, environmental issues and land value.

But Wainfleet Wind Energy Inc. acts like Wainfleet's residents don't matter because they can't—

they will.

"To us a future from The Wind is more important than a future from the past. We are committed to the health of our citizens."

David Pihach
Wainfleet

■ COLUMN

Clock Man turns back time

Although Wainfleet is my home, Port Colborne is my hometown. And although Wainfleet is too small to support a convenience store, Port Colborne maintains its "city" status at 18,500 people.

So although Wainfleet is not on a Mac's Milk target list, Port Colborne would be jailbait for Walmart.

Anyway you look at it, I love small town living. A quaint and quirky town always provides better entertainment than a slick, fast city.

Like a couple of Sundays ago at 4:55 a.m. in downtown Port Colborne, a passerby heard unusual banging noises followed by the smashing of glass. Upon further investigation, a man in pyjamas was seen smashing the front window of a local jeweler.

Could it have been a desperate and disoriented shopper mistaking the first Sunday in November for the fourth Friday of the



WILLIAM THOMAS

HUMOUR

month — Black Friday?! No. As the pounding continued and shards of glass hit the sidewalk, the witness concluded this was pretty much a middle-of-the-night jewelry store robbery and he called the cops.

When the police arrived they found a lot of glass, blood all over the sidewalk and empty spots in the store window where display items used to be.

This kind of robber is commonly called a "smash and grab artist" but the world "artist" may be giving this thief way, way too much credit. The blood from his fist on the sidewalk and the fact that no jewelry was stolen from the jewelry store indicates this thief was more of a "smash and grab

barbarian."

The suspect allegedly stole four clocks and then took off on foot. His hometown of St. Catharines — which is not nearly as charming as my hometown of Port Colborne — is a long, long way on foot. Or slipper, if he was accessories with the pyjamas.

Giving no forethought to a getaway vehicle and hitchhiking in pyjamas at five in the morning not a very promising prospect — our smash and grabber opts for a taxi. Unable to operate a cellphone what with his hands full of clocks, he runs over to a taxi company, whose offices are located two blocks away.

Now dispatchers of cab companies see and hear a lot of very weird stuff between midnight and first light, but this one had never actually witnessed a man in sleeping apparel carrying a small but impressive selection of time pieces.

So Clock Man who looks like he's on his way to a sleep apnea clinic and really, really, really doesn't want to be late informs the dispatcher he needs a cab to St. Catharines and pronto. Not a problem, that's the dispatcher's business.

Then the fare explains that although he has no money, he would gladly pay for the trip with a really nice ... wait for it ... clock! That's a

problem for the dispatcher who is more in the taxi business than the trade trade.

Now I did not know this but apparently there are so many seriously unprofessional crooks out there that when police encounter an odd looking crime scene, they automatically call the local cab company to see if some dumb ass ... sorry, to see if an alleged perpetrator may have enlisted their transport services.

"Ah, he's right here in front of me," was the dispatcher's response to the police phone call which doubled as a shot from a starter's pistol.

Clock Man was off and running down King St.

where he was promptly apprehended by police. Apparently they passed on a face-to-face witness identification. Otherwise the dispatcher and the eye-witness would have been looking through a one-way mirror at four guys in normal clothes holding flat screen TVs and ... Clock Man. (Maybe I watched too many episodes of Dragnet when I was a kid.)

Among a list of charges laid, "possession of a weapon" caught my eye. A weapon! This guy was armed! Turns out he was carrying a can of bear spray repellent.

see THOMAS | page 6

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The Clock Man had perfect timing

FROM PAGE 5

Now I have no idea what the odds are of being

attacked by a bear while breaking into a jewelry store but for that unlikely eventuality, Clock Man was

prepared. Yet somehow "brick" and "getaway vehicle" failed to help it onto his work sheet!

The Niagara Regional Police saved him the \$40 for a ride to St. Catharines and now he has an abode that's

fixed. And in some weird twist of truth and timing, that night, Sunday, Nov. 4, that was the night ... and yes you should be sitting down for this one ... that was the night we turned our clocks back.

Clock Man could argue he was not actually at the crime scene at precisely 4:55 a.m. He could claim he was trapped in a daylight savings time warp between 3:55 and 4:55 and how could you dispute that?

If I was Clock Man my defense would be sleep

walking. Hey, he sure was dressed for it.

Lesson learned? Rob locally. It's not as if the city of St. Catharines is out of clocks. And despite this time of year with midnight shopping and 24/7 sales, please adhere to the hours of business as listed on the door. Timing is everything.

Small town values or full value crime entertainment? Sometimes the line gets blurred.

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- Preheat Oven to 350 degrees. Makes 4 to 6 serving
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 2. Mix the spices together & sprinkle it over the top of pudding. Stand the pudding dish in a large filled edge pan, fill with water. Bake in oven for about 25 minutes or until set. Remove from oven, then sprinkle the top with the remaining ground spices & serve it forth.



Ingredients:

1. 10 x1 cm (1/2 in) slices of good white bread
- 1 1/2g (4 oz.) unsalted butter
- 300 ml (10 fl oz.) white wine
- 1 egg
- 1.25 ml (1/2 tsp.) salt
- 45 ml (3 tbsp.) Demerara Raw Cane Sugar
- 0.75 oz. (48 g) Saffron, (also known as Safflower, dried to powder texture, 600ml (1 pt) almond milk
2. 1.25 ml (1/2 tsp.) Ground Ginger
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■ **ORDER OF NIAGARA:** Tim Kennedy recognized

Unwavering dedication to Anglican church

MARYANNE FIRTH
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Tim Kennedy's dedication to St. James and St. Brendan Anglican Church is unwavering.



Kennedy

St. James is where he was baptized as a child and where his commitment has long been felt. He has assisted the parish in many ways over the years, acting as leader of the youth group, property manager, parish warden and longtime member of the choir, among others.

Kennedy was one of four local residents recently recognized by the Anglican Diocese of Niagara for service to church and community.

He received the coveted Order of Niagara on Nov. 4 during a cer-

emony held in Hamilton.

"He's such a dynamic man, so worthy of the award," fellow parish-ioner Pat Davis said of Kennedy, a retired elementary school teacher.

"There's almost nothing in the parish his hands have not helped."

"I am sincerely honoured my parish decided I was deserving of this award," said Kennedy, 63, who expressed his satisfaction in being able to assist the church over the years.

"I love the place. I have a sense of peace when I'm in there. It's one of those places that feel like home."

The other three local recipients of the Order of Niagara include Craig Stirtzinger, Welland's city manager and a member of Holy Trinity, Fonthill; Jim Venables, a member of St. David's, Welland; and Vivian Shoalts, a member of Christ Church, Wainfleet.

maryanne.firth@sunmedia.ca

Twitter: @myfrthTriBune

Public Notice

Public Consultation and Information Sessions for the Lake Erie Corridor Secondary Schools Accommodation Review will be held at the following schools:

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2012

6:00 p.m.

FORT ERIE SECONDARY SCHOOL

7 Tait Avenue, Fort Erie

(School tour of Fort Erie Secondary School.)

Note: Information session to follow at Port Colborne High School at 7:30 p.m. and Staff will also be available from Planning, Facilities and Finance to answer questions on all three schools.

7:30 p.m.

PORT COLBORNE HIGH SCHOOL

211 Elgin Street, Port Colborne

(A tour of Port Colborne High School and information on each high school in the review area will be available in the gymnasium. Staff will also be available from Planning, Facilities and Finance to answer questions on all three schools.)

Schools involved in the review area are:

Fort Erie, Port Colborne and Ridgeway-Crystal Beach



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inPortbriefs

WORKSHOP

PORT COLBORNE — Dealing with the loss of a loved one, a divorce, and other circumstances can be very challenging at anytime of year but is particularly hard as the holiday season nears. Many people experience a deepening of difficult emotions, loneliness, and grief and struggle to cope.

Join Bridges Community Health Centre on Thursday, December 6th, 3:00-4:30pm as we explore loneliness and grief and discover healthier ways of coping. The session will be led by social worker Len Dykstra and will be held in the Community Room at 177 King St., Port Colborne. Please register by calling 289-479-

5017 ext 2421.

PROBLEM ATVS

WELLAND — ATVs and off-road motorcycles racing along the canal bank have been an ongoing problem in Ward 4. Area councillors Pat Chiccolio and Tony DiMarco have heard from many constituents concerned about

the noisy recreat ional vehicles riding along nearby trails.

City engineer Sal Iannello said the city alone does not have the resources to resolve the problem.

"It's entirely a police function. Our staff does not have the legal ability to stop people or arrest anyone or give tickets," he said. "It's wholly in

the hands of police."

Mayor Barry Sharpe suggested talking to Niagara Regional Police officers, asking for an update on the issue.

Ward 5 Coun. Mike Petrachenko, the city's Greater Niagara Circle Route representative, said he and chairman Bruce Timms made a presentation to the police board

a few months ago, "expressing our concerns about policing in the area."

"We're trying to create a common bylaw between Thorold, Welland and Port Colborne," he said. "It's easier said than done."

That bylaw, he added, would make it easier for NRP to police the area.

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■ EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Defibrillators for arenas, library and city hall

MARYANNE FIRTH
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Lifesaving equipment will be within arms reach at several Port Colborne venues.

During a recent council meeting, Heart Niagara presented the city with three new public access defibrillators.

The hope is to "strengthen com-

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munity preparedness" in Port Colborne, said the organization's executive director, Karen Stearne.

The city has purchased an additional three defibrillators to add to its existing two.

New cases for all eight defibrillators will be installed in public facilities.

Four of the devices will be placed in the Vale Health and Wellness Centre.

The library, city hall, public works facility and Roselawn Centre will each receive one.

To help further community preparedness, Heart Niagara will host a CPR Blitz on Monday, Dec. 3, to provide free CPR for Port Colborne residents.

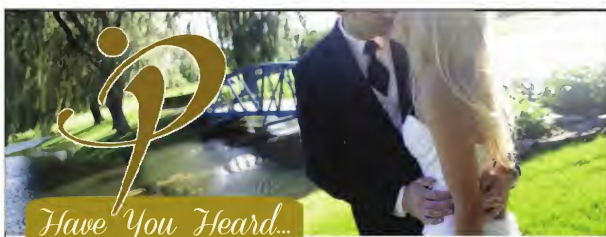
It will be held at the city's fire station at 3 Killaly St. W.

There will be two classes — one from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and a second 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

To register, call Heart Niagara at 905-358-5552 or e-mail info@heart-niagara.com.

Registration must be completed by Friday, Nov. 30.

maryanne.firth@sunmedia.ca
Twitter: @mjfirth17bune



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■ CAUSE: Electrical fire

Apartment blaze causes \$100,000 damage

DAVE JOHNSON
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services spent most of the early morning hours last Wednesday fighting a blaze at 72 Nickel St.

Firefighters were called out at 1:29 a.m. for a reported structure fire in the area of Nickel and Mitchell Sts.

Once on scene, firefighters encountered flames coming from a door on the east side of a building — a converted apartment building that housed four dwellings.

The fire at the door was knocked down quickly and

firefighters moved inside the structure.

Port Colborne fire prevention officer Mike Bendia said only one person lives in the building, but was not home at the time of the blaze.

Firefighters removed guinea pigs from an apartment and they appeared to be alive.

Niagara Regional Police and Niagara EMS paramedics were also on scene, and Port Colborne Hydro and Enbridge Gas were called in to shut off their respective services.

Firefighters were on scene well into the morning putting out hospos. The scene was cleared at 7 a.m.

Niagara Regional Police have pegged damage at \$100,000.

It's an older building that has been renovated "multiple times," Bendia said Wednesday, adding the original building dates back to 1918. The fire was able to find its way into voids in the ceiling created when the renovations occurred. This made the fire difficult to fight, he added.

Bendia and investigators from the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office determined the fire was accidental in nature.

"It was not linked to the Welland fires and

was found to be electrical in nature," Bendia said.

It's mandated that the Fire Marshal's Office be notified when a fire occurs in a residential building with multiple units.

Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services firefighters gave flames at the door a multi-unit apartment building at 72 Nickel St. early Wednesday morning. Firefighters were called out at 1:30 a.m. and cleared the scene at 7 a.m.



■ FUNDRAISER: Being held before parade

Lending a helping hand to Port Cares

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Hands on Health owner Allecia Kniffen is hoping clients and residents will be generous during a fundraiser — called A Knead for Knits & More — this Saturday before the city's annual Christmas parade.

"We're collecting mittens, non-perishable food items, and Canadian Tire money in support of Port Cares," she said of the fundraiser which started in November and continues into December.

During the parade, Kniffen will have singers Joel Longfellow and Mario Brouillard, both members of the Robert Wood Singers, in front of her business on West St. in Port Colborne.

The two men, who volunteered their time, will be singing Christmas carols for those gathered for the nighttime parade which passes down West St.

"We thought we'd contribute in some way," she said of having the singers in front of the store, at 222 West St., before the parade.

While the two men will start singing at 5 p.m., if the crowd is into it, they'll continue on as the parade passes by, she said.

To add to the festive spirit, the two men will be dressed up in Victorian-era capes and top hats and will be standing under a vintage street light that Kniffen was able to find.

"My staff and I will be handing out hot chocolate and candy canes to those that donate."

For more information on the A Knead for Knits & More fundraiser contact Kniffen at 289-836-6319.




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■ DEATH

\$1.2-M lawsuit launched against Trillium Railway

ALLAN BENNER
InPort News Staff

WELLAND — The family of a Port Colborne teenager struck by a train two years ago launched a \$1.2-million lawsuit earlier this month.

St. Catharines lawyer Bill Elkin, of Elkin Injury Law, filed a Statement of Claim in Superior Court in Welland on Thursday, Nov. 8, against Trillium Railway Co. Ltd., the City of Port Colborne and the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

The lawsuit stems from severe injuries sustained by Dalton Young, when he was struck by a train operated by Trillium Railway while walking to Port Colborne High School at about 8:15 a.m. on Dec. 6, 2010, at the intersection of Fielden Ave. and Prince St. Young was 16 years old at the time.

The claim, which has not been proven in court, alleges Trillium Railway failed to adequately warn the plaintiff to the dangers associated with crossing the tracks, failed to erect a fence or barrier to stop children from crossing the tracks — though the railway ought to have known many children cross the tracks there regularly — failed to erect a foot bridge to allow safe passage across the tracks, failed to hire competent employees, failed to properly train employees, failed to instruct employees to stop the train when they saw or ought to have seen the teenager on the tracks, failed to see the plaintiff walking on the tracks, failed to take action to prevent a recurrence following the incident, failed to exercise due diligence pursuant to the Railway Safety Act, and failed to correct a hazardous condition. Meanwhile, the claim alleges the city and regional governments failed to act to remedy the hazardous conditions, failed to demonstrate due diligence with the provisions of the Railway Safety Act, failed to provide functioning adequate safety devices such as fences or barricades, allowed pedestrians including children to use the railway tracks as an ad hoc passage despite the dangers, failed to adequately inspect the area and municipal property, hired incompetent contractors and employees, failed to adequately supervise, and that they knew or ought to have known the

lack of safety controls and fences would create a situation of danger for the public.

Those allegations have not been proven in court.

Calls to Elkin and Trillium Railway were not returned on Thursday or Friday. Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badawey and Niagara Region spokeswoman Denise Papaz both said they have yet to receive copies of the statement of claim.

"We're investigating," Papaz said, adding it was a "very traumatic incident and we're taking it very seriously."

But since it's a legal matter, she said the region could not comment further.

The statement says the train did not stop after it hit Dalton while travelling at slow speeds — about 10 km/h according to earlier news reports.

"It continued moving forward and then backed up onto a sidetrack," the statement of claim says. "It was only at this time that Dalton's unconscious and mangled body was observed by the Trillium Railway staff."

The claim lists "devastating very serious injuries" Young sustained, including head or brain injuries that resulted in a loss of consciousness and chronic head pain, headaches, multiple stitches, cognitive problems, psychological problems, emotional adjustment disorder with irritable mood, sleeplessness and night-mares; multiple cracked ribs on his right side resulting in a collapsed lung and difficulty breathing; fractured leg bones requiring surgery; additional surgery to insert a plate in the bottom of his foot and to repair detached nerves from his thigh to his foot, the loss of three toes on his right foot, massive blood loss and hemorrhagic shock, scarring, fatigue and weakness; additional tissue injuries of his thorax, cervical and lumbar spine resulting in chronic back pain; a permanent serious psychological pain disorder, injury to his nervous system resulting in anxiety, depression, increased irritability, nervousness, physical shock and the loss of enjoyment of life.

The claim asks for \$1-million plus costs for Dalton Young, as well as \$100,000 each plus costs for his parents Rita Newman and Alan Young. No court date has been set.

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■ HEALTH CARE: Memory clinic opens

Keeping people out of emergency departments

SARAH FERGUSON
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — The future of health care in Niagara is changing.

That change will allow physicians, pharmacists, social workers and other professionals in the health industry to work collaboratively, said Jeff Remington, a physician at Mapleview Medical Clinic.

And health care has already begun to change in Port Colborne when Mapleview Clinic unveiled its new memory clinic last Thursday.

Families living in the lake-side city will now have a local service that their loved ones can be referred to by their physicians, Remington said.

The clinic was a collaborative effort between Alzheimer Society of Niagara Region, Boggio Pharmacy, Niagara Health System, and

City of Port Colborne.

The idea behind the clinic is to educate, diagnose and treat individuals who may be struggling with mild memory loss, dementia and Alzheimer's disease and have supports from all facets of health care in one place to help patients deal with their diagnoses.

In addition to diagnosing memory loss and dementia, the clinic keeps a nurse practitioner, a pharmacist as well as a social worker on hand for patients.

"We're working to keep people out of emergency departments," Remington said.

He added that health care has become "heavily burdened" with patients in need of treatment for diseases involving memory loss. The clinic in Port Colborne will aid in alleviating wait times and help patients receive the care



From left, Angelo Gale, of the Alzheimer Society of Niagara, Aaron Boggio, Dr. Jeff Remington, Dr. Linda Lee, Joanne Ferracioli and Sue Battersby-Campbell of the Niagara Health System celebrated the opening of the Port Colborne Memory Clinic Thursday.

they need.

The memory clinic will run one day out of the month and provide testing for up to three people. If the need for the clinic grows, Remington said

the clinic will look at expanding its operations.

"Each patient visit could take up to two to three hours so we will see how it goes."

The memory clinic is one

of more than 30 clinics in Ontario based on a model created by Dr. Linda Lee, and endorsed by the Ontario College of Family Physicians.

The clinic was made pos-

sible by the training and mentorship provided by Lee and her Memory Clinic colleagues from the Centre for Family Medicine in Kitchener, through an unrestricted educational grant from Pfizer Canada. Port Colborne has also provided funds for infrastructure through the Inter-professional Care Pilot Project and for future infrastructure support.

Lee said the current health system "isn't designed for the management of complex diseases" such as Alzheimer's disease, which is why she developed the new, collaborative model that is used at the memory clinic in Port Colborne.

She began developing this new model in 2006 and she began developing a training program for it in 2008 with the Ontario College of Family Physicians.



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■ **AWARDS:** Students show off their talents

Top musical talent is showcased

VICTORIA GRAY
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Musical talent is bountiful on the province's south coast.

The Ontario Registered Music Teachers Association Welland-Port Colborne

chapter held its annual Student Presentation Concert on Sunday afternoon at First Presbyterian Church on Elm St. to acknowledge students who achieved first class honours standing or above in their conservatory of music exams this year.

President Lynn Brazeau gave out 19 awards and five \$25 scholarships for students who got the highest marks in their subjects and grades.

"These recitals are great for the children because they get some recognition for their hard work and they also get

some experience performing," she said.

Ryan Baxter played "Nocturne" by Frederic Chopin and "Jazz Exercise No. 2" by Oscar Peterson for a crowd of about 30 in the church before accepting his award first class honors in grade 7 piano

and theory. He also received one of the theory scholarships.

Anusha Kanesh received two scholarships for grade three harmony and theory, Jordan Mason received one for intermediate and advanced theory, Nikki Sohi was awarded a schol-

arship for basic rudiments, but all three were unable to attend.

President of Mapleview Charities in Welland attended the recital and donated \$1,000 to the association to help with future student scholarships.

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A Newsletter written by Staff for the Residents of Port Colborne

NOVEMBER 29, 2012

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Port Colborne New Operations Centre (PCOC)



PORT COLBORNE

Mayor's New Years Levee

Sunday, January 6, 2013
1 - 4 p.m.

City Hall Council Chambers
66 Charlotte Street
Port Colborne

Everyone welcome



Photo by: Precious LePante

Santa Claus Parade

The Santa Claus Parade is coming to town on Saturday December 1, 2012. Beginning at 6:30 p.m. at Port Colborne High School the parade will travel South on Steeple Street to Clarence Street where it will move East onto Clarence Street to West Street. It will then make its way South on West Street to Charlotte Street where it will travel West to end at Market Square, in front of City Hall.

Children are invited to visit with Santa in the Guild Hall and enjoy a cup of hot chocolate.

The Port Colborne Optimist Club will once again be collecting non-perishable food donations along the parade route for the Food Bank. Your donations would be greatly appreciated.



Photo by: Michelle Mason

2012 Christmas Skating Schedule



Monday, December 24, 2012
Stick & Puck 11 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.
Public Skating 1 - 3:00 p.m.
*Arena closes at 4 p.m.

Tuesday, December 25, 2012
Christmas Day Arena Closed

Wednesday, December 26, 2012
Boxing Day Arena Closed

Thursday, December 27, 2012
TIM'S SKATE 2 - 3:20 p.m. (Free Skate)

Friday, December 28, 2012
TIM'S SKATE 2 - 4:20 p.m. (Free Skate)

Sunday, December 30, 2012
Public Skating 1:30 - 3:50 p.m.

Monday, December 31, 2012
Public Skating 10 - 11:50 a.m.
Ingredion Kidz Carnival 2 - 5:00 p.m. (Free Skate)

Tuesday, January 1, 2012
New Years Day Arena Closed

Wednesday, January 5, 2012
Parents & Tots 9:30 - 10:50 a.m.
Open Play As You Play 11 - 11:50 a.m.
Stick & Puck 12 - 12:50 p.m.
TIM'S SKATE 1 - 3 p.m.
(Free Skate)

Thursday, January 6, 2012
TIM'S SKATE 1 - 3 p.m. (Free Skate)
Stick & Puck 3:10 - 4:20 p.m.

Friday, January 7, 2012
Seniors & Adults 10 - 10:50 a.m.
50+ Play As You Play 11 - 11:50 a.m.
Stick & Puck 12 - 12:50 p.m.
TIM'S SKATE 1 - 3 p.m. (Free Skate)

New Year's Eve Kidz Carnival

The New Year's Eve Kidz Carnival, presented by Ingredion Canada Incorporated & Friends, will be held on Monday, December 31, 2012 from 2 until 5 p.m. at West Side Arena.

Ring in the New Year with free skating, face painting, cookie decorating, games and a Mad Scientist show. Join us for a family fireworks display in the field beside the Westside Arena at 5:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.portcolborne.ca.

Events at Roselawn

Food & Wine

Friday, December 7

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6:30 p.m. \$85.00 per person



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Port Colborne
Saturday December 8
Roselawn Centre
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BOOK SOME HOLIDAY FUN TODAY

Christmas Swimming Schedule 2012

December 22 until December 31, 2012

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6:30 - 9 a.m. Laps / Leisure
10:30 - 11 a.m. Adult / Family
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Adult Lap / Leisure / Family
12:30 - 1 p.m. Family
1 - 2:30 p.m. Public

Tuesday December 25, Wednesday December 26

Pool Closed - Christmas Day, Boxing Day

Thursday December 27

6:30 - 9 a.m. Laps / Leisure
10:45 - 11:30 a.m. Aquatics
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Adult Laps
12:30 - 2:30 p.m. Public
6 - 8 p.m. Public
8 - 10 p.m. Water polo 14 yrs. & up

Friday December 28

6:30 - 9 a.m. Laps / Leisure
10:30 - 11 a.m. Adult / Family
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Adult Lap / Leisure / Family
12:30 - 1 p.m. Family
1 - 2:30 p.m. Public
6 - 8 p.m. Public

Saturday December 22 & 29 and Sunday

December 23 & 30

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Adult Laps / Leisure
12:30 - 1 p.m. Public
1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Public
6 - 8 p.m. Public

AQUA JOG

Monday through Friday (Days) 9 - 9:30 a.m.
Cost: 1 Session \$3.50
7 Sessions \$23.50
15 Sessions \$42.25

AQUA FIT

Tuesday and Thursday (Days) 10:45 - 11:30 a.m.
Monday and Wednesday (Evenings) 7:45 - 8:30 p.m.
Cost: 1 Session \$4.00
7 Sessions \$28.00
15 Sessions \$54.00

POOL RENTALS	RATE	HST	TOTAL
One Hour:			
Up to 20 Persons:	\$151.33	\$19.67	\$171.00
One Hour:			
21 - 100 Persons:	\$165.72	\$21.55	\$187.26

Recreational Swimming Rates (Per Swim)

1 Child - 17 years and under \$5.25
1 Adult - 18 years and over \$5.50
1 Senior - 55 years and over \$4.25
1 Child - 6 years old or under accompanied by 1 "Third Adult" (Does Not Include Groups) FREE

WATER POLO

Thursdays 8 - 10 p.m.
\$3.50 (per person - HST included)
Age Restriction: Must be 14 years and over

SPORTSFEST PORT COLBORNE

14th annual CALL OUT
February 15 - 18, 2013

The City of Port Colborne Community Services, Special Events division is inviting all community partners to participate in the 14th annual Sportsfest. If you are interested in hosting an event that provides recreational activities, promotes healthy lifestyle and/or socializing, please register by November 30.

Past events have included:

- Soup Cook Off
- Frostbite Mountain Bike Race
- Free Swimming
- Free Skating
- Snow Golf
- Trivia
- Volleyball
- Hockey
- Youth Ball Hockey



Photo By: Precious LaPlante

Participation commitment fee is \$50.00 per event hosted. To obtain an application, or if you have any questions, please contact Gina Murdoch, 905-834-1668 ext. 534, ginamurdoch@portcolborne.ca

Port Colborne Historical & Marine Museum

36th Grand Old Christmas Festival
Sunday, December 2,
12 to 4 p.m.

Bring the whole family! There is no better place to get in the Christmas spirit than at the Grand Old Christmas Festival, at the Port Colborne Historical & Marine Museum, on December 2 from 12-4 p.m.

Throughout the heritage village the festival celebrates the traditional sights, sounds and scents of Christmas. It is a much anticipated day which offers a fun-filled, old fashioned Christmas experience that children and adults can enjoy together.

Join us this year and be part of a beloved tradition where you can enjoy a horse-drawn carriage ride around the block and sip tea served with homemade Christmas pudding. Santa and his elves will be waiting for you in the log School-house beside a roaring fire where young and old can have their photographs taken. Visit the Blacksmith Shop and use a cross-cut saw to cut your own piece of log then have it branded with this year's stamp. Print a Christmas card on a

heritage press, dip a candle and enjoy Christmas songs by a school choir. Visit the L.R. Wilson Heritage Re-

mas ornament. There are still a few copies of Turner's award-winning book on Major General Brock



search Archives where you can shop for cards and museum publications. Don't miss "Putting the Tea in Christmas" die exhibit that honours the holiday tradition of afternoon tea. Christmas pudding and friendship. So come and pay us a visit, get in a festive mood and prepare to return home with a warm fuzzy feeling in your soul.

Holiday Gifts
Looking for that last-minute Christmas gift? Stop by the Museum's Gift Shop and pick up a "War of 1812" Bicentennial T-shirt in white or grey, along with an "1812" mug and Christ-

mas ornament. There are still a few copies of Turner's award-winning book on Major General Brock

available, not to mention several small "cannon" pencil sharpeners and key chains for sale as "stocking stuffers".
Arabella's Tea Room
Shoppers Week Special December 3 - 8 bring your family out to Arabella's Tea Room from 2 - 4 p.m. daily to enjoy some tasty Christmas pudding and sauce. The Museum Auxiliary volunteers have stashed hundreds of puddings in preparation for this popular holiday tradition and will have limited puddings available for sale at the Grand Old Christmas Festival take-out.

ART - of-FACT

At the Port Colborne Historical & Marine Museum till Dec.16

The Niagara Artist Centre brought five artists together from a variety of backgrounds - Aboriginal, Anglophone, Francophone and New Canadian - to offer their facts and perspectives of the War of 1812. Art-of-fact brings previously unexplored stories of War of 1812 to life through contemporary visual art installations. The artworks they have created challenge us reconsider what we think we know and to consider how much is unknown. Art-of-fact isn't history written by the victors. It's not dry or dusty or the last word on anything. It isn't the only truth, and it isn't lies. Art-of-fact begins a conversation about what we think history is.

Co-op Students

(left to Right)

Co-op students Nicole Johnston, from Lakeshore Catholic High School and Brianne Weenon, from Port Colborne High School have been focusing their work placements on archive indexing and cataloguing. Please look for them as elves at the Grand Old Christmas Festival!



Port Colborne Public Library
310 King Street
Port Colborne, ON
L3K 4H1
www.portcolborneilibrary.org

Phone: 905-834-6512
Fax: 905-835-5775
email: library@portcolborne.ca

HOURS of Service

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Holiday Hours

Closed: December 24, 25, 26, 2012
Open: December 27, 28, 29, 2012
Open: December 31, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Closed: January 1, 2013

Help Fill Our Mitten Tree for Port Cares' Coats for Kids and Families

November 26, 2012 to December 20, 2012 at the Port Colborne Library
Bring new mittens, gloves, hats & scarves and place them on our Mitten Tree for donation to Port Cares Coats for Kids and Families. Non-perishable food donations will also be accepted on behalf of the Reach Out Food Centre. Thank you for your support!

New Language Learning eResources for Adults and Kids!

Mango Languages will be available for library patrons beginning January 2013.

What better way to start the new year than to learn a foreign language...or maybe 2 - or maybe...491! Starting in January, Mango Languages will be available online, free of charge, to Port Colborne Library patrons to help you keep your New Year's resolution.

What is Mango Languages? It's an online language resource with 49 basic courses that introduces users to foreign languages and assists ESL learners. It requires no training, downloads or installations. Also available in January 2013 is Little PIM for children up to age 6, providing limited access to 10 language experiences just for kids.

Mango Languages and Little PIM are accessible anywhere you are - at home, in the library, at an Internet café - wherever! All you need is your library card number to get started. Contact the library at 905-834-6512 for more information.

Food-for-Fines

Thank you to all our library patrons who donated non-perishable food items for the Reach Out celebration of Ontario Public Libraries Week!

Programming for Adults

Book Signing with Author Mary Gray
Saturday, December 8, 2012, 10 a.m.

Join Mary Gray and rescue dog Zuba for a signing of their book *Rescue Me...Please*. A short presentation will follow at 10:30 and guests are welcome to ask questions about rescue dogs and the work that they do. All proceeds go directly to Barkin Rescue, a non-profit organization, founded by the author, that has been saving dogs since 2002. Support a worthy cause and give someone special on your Christmas list with an autographed book!

Knitting Classes with instructor Vicki Fretz

Winter Session starts in January 2013

Tuesday evenings 7 - 9 p.m., January 8 to March 12, 2013

Thursday afternoons 1 - 3 p.m., January 10 to March 21, 2013
With instructor Vicki Fretz. For more information or to join the Knitters Club, call Vicki at 905-835-5373.

E-book & Audiobook Library Downloads Seminars
Join us for a free demonstration of how to select, check out, and download ebooks & audiobooks from the library site to your home computer, and transfer them to a portable device. Call us at 905-834-6512 to sign up for the next available spot in these ongoing seminars.

One-on-One Computer Lessons

Tuesday mornings at the Library
Lessons geared toward your interest. Topics available include email, Facebook, Google, and more! Cost is \$10.00 per person per one-hour lesson. Pre-registration required. Book your appointment today!

Films for Seniors

Presented the first Wednesday of the month, September to June, at 1:30 p.m. Free admission! Free refreshments!

Wii Bowling for Seniors

Presented the third Wednesday of the month, September to June, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Join us for an afternoon of fun, low-impact exercise, and a bit of friendly competition. Free admission. Free refreshments.

Programming with Children

Music Singing Time with Lisa Green.
Presented on alternating Thursdays, 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.

Start date is Thursday, January 10, 2013

This exciting 45-minute program of sign language, music, dance and games is designed for children ages 6 months to 5 years. Children must be accompanied by a parent/caregiver. There is no charge for the program but a non-perishable food donation to the Port Colborne Reach Out Centre is appreciated. For more information and to register, contact Lisa at 905-834-9354 or at email at greenfamworld@gmail.com

Top Time with Macey

Thursdays, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., January 3, 17 & 31, February 21, March 7 & 21.
Stories, crafts & games, for children ages 2 to 4 accompanied by a parent/caregiver. Cost is \$1.00 per child per week. Pre-register at the Library.

Crafts with Speech: "Snow Day"

Wednesday, January 2, 2013, 3 - 4 p.m.
Create and frame a piece of snow-themed art! For ages 5 and older.
Cost: \$5.00 per child. Pre-register at the Library.

Kids' Yoga with Nadia

Thursdays until December 13, 4 - 5 p.m. New session to start in January.

For children ages 4 to 12. \$5.00 per class drop-in. Bring a yoga mat, blanket or towel to practice on. To register for classes or for information on upcoming sessions in the new year, call Nadia Esposito at 905-329-9641.



Health and Wellness Centre



For Credit Card Payments, please visit www.portcolborne.ca
Cash / Debit / Cheque Payments at City Hall

Name: _____ City: _____
Postal Code: _____

*Special thanks to the City of Port Colborne

for sponsoring the Dedication Walkway

*The City of Port Colborne has the right to approve all messages

and/or to remove any message

Please check Brick Order Form Submit orders to City Hall

Single Brick \$150.00 Double Brick \$250.00 Business Name \$500.00

Double Brick \$300.00 Business Logo

There are no minimum orders for bricks. All orders are subject to availability.

Single Brick 1 or 3 Rows of Text

Double Brick 1 or 3 Rows of Text

LETTERING WILL BE CENTERED

HONOR WALL RECOGNITION

General Donation to the Vale Health & Wellness Centre can be made at City Hall. Your name/organization will be placed on a donor wall inside the lobby.

For more information, please visit www.portcolborne.ca or contact Community Services at 905-834-1668



Arena 1 – interior finishes are ongoing.



Finish work is underway in the fitness area.



PORT COLBORNE Vale Health and Wellness Centre Fact Sheet November 2012

- The Port Colborne Health & Wellness Centre has been under construction now for eighteen (18) months. YMCA and Subway Restaurants revisions have been incorporated into the design.
- Over the past three (3) months, construction activities included interior and exterior glazing; lighting installation; polishing of concrete flooring throughout the facility; stair construction; installation of drywall; dashboard and HDPE installations; millwork and site landscaping, concrete sidewalks and asphalt in the parking lot. Interior finishes such as wall panels and painting are ongoing along with tile work throughout the building.
- To maintain safety on the site it is imperative that the public stay away from the construction areas. This work is scheduled to continue throughout 2012.
- The bullets listed below outline the scope of work that is expected to be carried out during the next few months.
 - ° Pool and washroom tile work – September-December 2012
 - ° Aluminum windows and curtain wall – September-December 2012
 - ° Tiling – September-December 2012
 - ° Painting – November 2012
 - ° Millwork – November 2012
 - ° Athletic equipment/Gym dividers – November 2012
 - ° Washroom fixtures/accessories – November 2012
 - ° Skate /Track flooring – November 2012
 - ° Acoustic ceilings – November 2012
 - ° Audio Visual installations – November 2012
 - ° Slab pull downs – November 2012
 - ° Signage installation – December 2012

Visit the City of Port Colborne website at www.portcolborne.ca/page/Health_and_Wellness_Centre for information on the project as it progresses. If you have any questions you can call City Hall at 905-835-2901 ext. 219.



Lap pool tiling is nearing completion
Glazing installation is underway.

The Name of the Game is PORTicipation

The Name of the Game is PORTicipation,* stated Mayor Vance Badawey as he announced this new initiative to encourage families to PORTicipate in fun, active, healthy lifestyles within the City of Port Colborne.

"On February 16th, 2013, the City of Port Colborne will open the doors to the new Vale Health and Wellness Centre and watch crowds of people from across the community and Niagara stream in to celebrate a milestone for the City of Port Colborne. This state-of-the-art facility for sport, recreation, wellness, entertainment, and commerce will be a community focal point that contributes to an active lifestyle for our residents and visitors," stated the mayor.

"With the ultimate goal of creating healthier generations, the Vale Health and Wellness Centre, in conjunction with the YMCA, are challenging families to show how they PORTicipate as a family to stay active and lead a healthy lifestyle."

Beginning November 29, 2012 and running until January 4, 2013, the City of Port Colborne will be hosting a contest to select the official "healthy family" to represent the Vale Health and Wellness Centre. The winning family will be a part of the Community Celebration in February; will be included in marketing materials for the facility and will receive a one year family membership to the YMCA (as defined on the YMCA website). Second prize is a family season pass for skating and third prize is a family season pass to Nickel Beach.

Open to residents of Port Colborne, families are being encouraged to make small changes by "PORTicipating" in new activities, fun moves and simple ways to be their best.

It's time to discover your strengths and have fun! It's never too late to challenge yourself.

How to "PORTicipate"

Share your story of what you are doing to be healthy as a family. We are looking for stories accompanied by a photo that show how your family lives a healthy lifestyle.

Included in your submission must be:

1. A photo of your family

2. A "story" not exceeding 500 words on how your family "PORTicipates"

The photo and story must fit into one of the following categories:

Healthy Eating

For example:

Story: How does your family try to eat right? Share the fun ways you get your family to make healthy eating choices.

Photo: Include a photo of your family at meal time, trying new foods or cooking together

Healthy Activities

For example:

Story: Share how you make exercise fun. How is it part of your family's daily routine?

Photo: Share a photo of your family "PORTicipating" in physical activities such as hiking, swimming, skating, sports, etc.

Contest forms can be found online at www.portcolborne.ca. City Hall, the Roselawn Centre and the Westside Arena. Completed entries may be submitted in person at City Hall to the attention of the Mayor's Office, by email to participation@portcolborne.ca, or by mail to: The Mayor's Office, City of Port Colborne, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne, ON L3K 3C8.

For more information please contact:

Harry S. Hakim, BPHE, MCMM
Manager of Community Services
905-834-1668 ext. 531 or ext. 532
harryhakim@portcolborne.ca

Erin Pozzebon,
Marketing and Tourism Coordinator
905-834-1668 ext. 505
erinpozzebon@portcolborne.ca



Building main entrance



Gymnasium



Arena 2 – interior finishes are on going.

Our Y is coming soon!

The City of Port Colborne and the YMCA of Niagara are committed to serving the whole community, people of all ages and abilities, as we open the new Vale Health & Wellness Centre.

As anticipation builds for the opening of the new YMCA, we have received numerous questions from residents curious about the Y. Here are a few of those questions and answers.

When will the new YMCA be open?

The construction schedule provides for the YMCA to open early in the New Year. This winter we will be able to announce an official opening date.



What programs and services can members expect?

With a new building will come new opportunities for all those we serve. The large gymnasium will lead to opportunities for drop-in basketball and group fitness classes. On the second floor a fitness area, and indoor walking track will provide a place to develop strength and cardio fitness and babysitting for members' children will be available in the Play Centre. Family fun, aquatic fitness and swimming lessons will take place in the two pools.

How do I join the Y?

Those interested in being the first to join the Y are invited to visit the YMCA Welcome Centre opening mid-December, at the Roselawn Centre. Residents may purchase memberships, explore job opportunities and to find out more about the YMCA.

How much is it to join the Y?

The YMCA is open to all. Affordable monthly fees range from \$25.50 for a child to \$85 for a family with three children. Financial assistance is available to anyone who requires it and is determined by a confidential and fair process. Financial assistance is made possible from funds raised by the Strong Kids Annual Support Campaign.

What if I can't afford to join the new Y?

The YMCA believes that all individuals, regardless of economic circumstances are given the opportunity to participate in YMCA membership activities. Currently, one out of four people receives some type of assistance in our Membership Centers across Niagara. The YMCA Membership Assistance program serves those individuals and families who have the greatest need in our community. They are unable, not unwilling to pay the full fee for a general membership. Anyone may apply for financial assistance by booking a confidential interview, and providing some basic financial information.

Will there be opportunities for employment at the Y?

The YMCA of Niagara is currently the largest employer of young people in the region, and provides a variety of volunteer development opportunities for people of all ages and abilities.

As the Port Colborne YMCA grows, so will our need for experienced, dedicated and hard working individuals interested in helping the YMCA to achieve its mission.

We anticipate that numerous full time and part time positions will become available in all areas. We will be looking for qualified Health & Fitness Instructors, Child & Youth Program Leaders, Lifeguards and Aquatics professionals, Customer Service and Sales specialists, and Housekeeping and Maintenance staff to name but a few.

For more news, information and current job postings, please visit the YMCA online at ymcainiagara.org. If you have any questions or need more information, please call us at 905-835-9622 or email us at portcolbornemymca@ymcainiagara.ca.

Clearing the Sidewalks of Snow & Ice

In Port Colborne, every owner or occupant of a building is responsible for clearing the sidewalks adjoining their property of all snow and ice within 24 hours of the cessation of a snow event. This allows the safe passage of all pedestrians. Please be considerate and offer assistance with snow removal to those neighbours who need a helping hand. If you are renting a property please make necessary arrangements with your landlord regarding snow removal.

Those who do not comply may face a fine of \$160.00 or have the removal completed at the owner's expense.

You may view the current Snow and Ice Removal By-law 5383/13/709 here: www.portcolborne.ca/files/81/library/50415b3406581536388b1e532386353.pdf

As always you may contact the By-law Enforcement Division at 905-835-2901 Ext. 229 to register a complaint.

Be a good neighbor, take the time to help.



City Of Port Colborne Public Notices

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE/COUNCIL MEETING FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER
One regular meeting will be held on Monday, December 10, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall Council Chambers, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne.

CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR HOLIDAY CLOSING

Please be advised that City Hall will close for the holiday season on Friday, December 21, 2012 at 4:30 p.m. and will reopen at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 2, 2013.

The City Works / Parks Yard will be closed:

- December 25 and 26, 2012 for Christmas Day and Boxing Day.
- January 1, 2013 for New Year's Day.

Emergency calls on the closure dates will be handled in the usual fashion by calling 905-835-5079 (24 hour service).

FARMERS' MARKET

During the month of December, the Farmers' Market will be held from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the following dates:

- Friday, December 7, 2012
- Friday, December 14, 2012
- Friday, December 21, 2012
- Friday, December 28, 2012

Commencing January 4, 2013, the Market will be held on that day and every Friday thereafter from 7:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Notice To Dog Owners 2013 Dog Licenses

City of Port Colborne 2013 Dog Licenses are now available for purchase and are due March 15.

The following discounted rates apply for licenses purchased on or before March 15:

Un-Neutered/Un-spayed Dogs \$25.00
Neutered/Spayed Dogs (proof required) \$15.00

After March 15 the regular rates of \$35.00 and \$25.00 apply.

Tags may be purchased at:

- City Hall, 66 Charlotte Street
- The Port Colborne Animal Shelter, 1080 Elm Street
- Independent Discount Pet Supply, 730 Main Street West
- Pet Valu, Westside Place Plaza, Westside Road

Dog owners who fail to purchase a dog license before the due date are liable for a set fine under Part 1 Provincial Offences Act.



Notice: Unclaimed Building Deposits 2005 and Prior

Pursuant to Section 4.2.5 of By-law 5817/77/12 of The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne, any unclaimed building deposits from building permits issued in 2005 and prior will be transferred to the general funds of the municipality after ninety (90) days from January 2, 2013 unless proof of claims is made within ninety (90) days from January 2, 2013. The process to claim a building deposit will be detailed in a registered letter sent to the last known address of the permit holder and advertisements of the respective permit numbers will be made available on the City's website www.portcolborne.ca and in local press after January 2, 2013. Request for payment forms will also be available on the City's website www.portcolborne.ca.

If you require any additional information please contact Lyle Merritt, Chief Building Officer at 905-835-2900 Ext. 201 or by email at lylemerritt@portcolborne.ca.



Notice to Citizens Appointments to Boards and Committees

The City of Port Colborne is accepting applications from citizens for positions on boards and committees. The vacancies are due to the expiry of current appointments, resignations or insufficient applications in response to prior recruitments. Positions are available on the following boards and committees:

- Port Colborne Seniors Advisory Council; and
- Canal Dues Advisory Committee

On November 10, 2008, Council adopted a policy respecting appointments to boards and committees. This policy establishes the process relating to the recruitment, selection and appointment of members of the public to boards and committees and the City's expectations of such appointees. The policy requires that the successful applicants consent to the release by the City of their name and personal information relating to their education, qualifications and experience which is pertinent to the appointment. Council will release the name of an unsuccessful applicant only with the written consent of the applicant. Please visit the City's website www.portcolborne.ca to access the full text of the policy and a brief description of the mandate of the above boards/committees, etc.

Unless the terms of reference of the board/committee provide otherwise, applicants must:

- be eighteen years of age or older
- a qualified municipal elector in the City of Port Colborne
- not be disqualified by the Municipal Act, 2001, Municipal Election Act, 1996 or the Planning Act
- not be an employee of the City of Port Colborne or the board.

Applicants must provide sufficient information regarding their qualifications and related experience for Council to make an informed decision. The standard form of application is available on the City's website and/or from the City Clerk's Office.

Applications in person, by e-mail or regular mail will be received by the undersigned until 4:30 p.m. on January 23, 2013.

Ashley Grigg, City Clerk
City Hall, 66 Charlotte Street
Port Colborne, Ontario L3K 3C8
ashleygrigg@portcolborne.ca
905-835-2900 ext. 106

Personal information is collected under authority of the Municipal Act, 2001 and pursuant to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will only be released to the voluntary of citizens. Questions respecting the collection of information should be directed to the City Clerk of the City of Port Colborne.



City Of Port Colborne Public Notice

No Parking Interfering With Snow Removal On All Highways

Owners of vehicles within the City of Port Colborne are hereby reminded of the provisions of the Highway Traffic Act and By-law No. 89-2000 which regulates parking and traffic on city roads.

No person shall park or stand a vehicle on a highway in such a manner as to interfere with the movement of traffic or the clearing of snow from the highway.

Upon discovery of any vehicle parked or standing in contravention of the above mentioned, an officer may be required to be moved or taken to and placed or stored in a suitable place and all costs and charges for removing, care and storage thereof. If any are a lien upon the vehicle, which may be enforced in the manner provided by the Repair and Storage Liens Act.

Your cooperation in complying with these provisions is appreciated and will avoid the use of the enforcement provisions of the By-law/Act.

Vehicle - Includes a motor vehicle, trailer, traction engine, farm tractor, road-building machine and any vehicle drawn, propelled or driven by any kind of power, including muscular power, but does not include a motorized snow vehicle or a street car.

Large Motor Vehicle - Means a commercial motor vehicle, bus, school bus, boat, boat trailer, or mobile home*

Highway - Includes a common and public highway, street, avenue, parkway, driveway, square, place, bridge, viaduct, or trestle, any part of which is intended for or used by the general public for the passage of vehicles and includes the area between the lateral property lines thereof*

City of Port Colborne Wins Prestigious Tourism Award

The Niagara's South Coast Arts & Culture Route has earned Port Colborne the top Provincial award in the "Best Marketing Initiative Under \$25,000" category.

The awards were announced at the Ontario Tourism Marketing Partnership Corporation's (OTMPC) annual Tourism Summit, held this year in London, Ontario from October 22-24, 2012. The Summit, which is an annual forum for the tourism industry to learn the latest trends, share new ideas and network with colleagues also hosts an awards gala that celebrates excellence and motivation in the multi-billion dollar tourism industry, which is a key contributor to Ontario's economic wealth.

"I am extremely pleased that the City of Port Colborne has been recognized with this top honour," said Mayor Vance Badway. "It was a very competitive field, with entries from communities and also large regions from across Ontario."

"We have brought our marketing strategy to the next level ensuring that the City of Port Colborne receives international recognition as an additional, dynamic Niagara destination," said the mayor. "Along with communities such as Niagara Falls and Niagara-on-the-Lake, Niagara's South Coast offers a myriad of well-balanced activities for all interests, in turn, encouraging longer stays and return visits to the region."

"The Niagara's South Coast Arts & Culture Route was designed with the core goal of building awareness, attracting tourists and promoting year-round tourism opportunities to strengthen the economy," said Stephen Thompson, General Manager and Director of Economic Development, Tourism and Marketing. "The arts and culture route provides a tangible opportunity to support small business and develop strategic/unique tourism experiences," both identified as key priorities in the City's Economic Development and Tourism Strategies.

Thompson also highlighted the importance of partnerships. The project was made possible through funding from the Ontario Ministry of Tourism and the Cultural Strategic Investment Fund, Employment Ontario and South Niagara Community Futures Development Corporation through its Community Adjustment Fund program in association with Fed Dev Ontario.

The Niagara's South Coast Arts & Culture Route Initiative includes a multi-platform, fold out brochure with a map containing information and locations for all of the 46 artists and artisans on the route and has realized a significant increase in awareness and cultural tourism since its launch in 2011.

Local community groups such as the Downtown Business Improvement Area have continued to build on the project with the creation of an Arts Crawl Movement, now in its second year, consisting of block after block of art exhibits, installations, live music, and hands-on art projects.

More than 15,000 copies of the Niagara's South Coast Arts & Culture Route Map have been distributed over the past year and this brochure is the most popular tourism brochure produced by the City of Port Colborne.

Originally a concept developed by the City of Port Colborne for its local artists and galleries, arts and cultural assets, through research, word-of-mouth and a strong community buy-in, the project has grown to include artists and artisans from three of the municipalities along Niagara's South Coast.

The important role of Niagara's South Coast was identified in the submission that led to Niagara being named the 2012 Culture Capital of Canada and generated support and funding from the Niagara Region's Arts and Culture Committee to the City of Port Colborne's "All Hands on Deck" event this past weekend at the Revelon Centre. It attracted over 700 visitors who participated in a wide range of arts and culture activities including hands on workshops.



sugarloaf marina
Port Colborne

BOATERS WANTED

Sugarloaf Marina is having a
NEW CUSTOMER SEARCH
SPECIAL ENDS DECEMBER 21

Do you have a Boat
between 21 FEET and
26 FEET



you **DO NOT** need hydro?

25 foot dock \$999 plus HST if you come alone
24 foot dock \$975 plus HST if you come alone
23 foot dock \$930 plus HST if you come alone
21 foot dock \$900 plus HST if you come alone

MUST BOOK TOGETHER with \$200.00

non-refundable deposit

WAIT ...THERE'S MORE!!!

\$75 less each if you bring a friend

\$100 less each for 2 friends

\$125 less each for 3 friends or more!

Do you have a boat
between 27 FT & 32 FT
needing **Full Services**?



\$1385 plus HST if you come alone

\$1285 plus HST each if you & a friend book

\$1185 plus HST each if you & 2 friends book

\$1085 plus HST each if you and a bunch of friends book (3 or more)

MUST BOOK TOGETHER with \$200.00

non-refundable deposit

Specials Available to New Customers Only

Call 905-835-6644 before December 21

3 Marina Road, Port Colborne

Is Your Family Prepared? GetPrepared.ca

Basic emergency kit

You may find that some of these basic emergency kit items already, such as a flashlight, battery-operated radio, food, water and blankets. The key is to make sure they are organized, easy to find and easy to carry (in a suitcase with wheels or in a backpack in case you need to evacuate your home). Whatever you do, don't wait for a disaster to happen. Easy to carry – think of ways that you can pack your emergency kit to that you and those on your emergency plan can easily take the items with you, if necessary.

- Water – two litres of water per person per day (include small bottles that can be carried easily in case of an evacuation order)
- Food – that won't spoil, such as canned food, energy bars and dried foods (remember to replace the food and water once a year)
- Manual can opener
- Flashlight and batteries
- Battery-powered or wind-up radio (and extra batteries)
- First aid kit
- Special needs items – prescription medications, infant formula or equipment for people with disabilities
- Extra keys – for your car and house
- Cash – include smaller bills, such as \$10 bills (travellers cheques are also useful) and change for payphones
- Emergency Plan – include a copy of it and ensure it contains in-town and out-of-town contact information

Did you know

Two litres of water per person per day is the recommended amount to have on hand in case of emergency.

72 hours

Is your family prepared?

If an emergency happens in your community, it may take emergency workers some time to reach you. You should be prepared to take care of yourself and your family for a minimum of 72 hours.

Port Colborne New Operations Centre (PCOC)

The City's Works Yard is no longer deemed to be adequate for the present operations and Council has agreed that the feasibility of a new facility be investigated, through presentations made at Strategic Planning and budget deliberations. Presently Philips Engineering Limited has completed an Environmental Assessment Study for a new Port Colborne Operations Centre. The Environmental Assessment recommended that a new facility be constructed in the Stonebridge Drive - Port Colborne Industrial Park.

At the August 27, 2012 Council meeting, PRISM Partners Inc. was selected as the successful Owner Advocate/Project Manager for the design and construction part of the PCOC. In May 2012, a Request for Qualification (RFQ) was issued for the selection of an Architect. A shortlist was created based on the RFQ submissions and 5 candidates were provided a copy of a Request for Proposal for Architectural Services.

The successful proponent will be considered by Council on December 10, 2012.



Port Colborne Skate & BMX Park Located at Lock 8 Park

Tenders for the construction of the new Skate & BMX Park located in Lock 8 Park were advertised in April of 2012 and the successful contractor Patterned Concrete of Toronto was selected at the May 28, 2012 Council Meeting.

Construction began late in June and is currently ongoing. The park is starting to take shape with construction scheduled to be completed in November 2012.

The complexity of the design and the site constraints have made construction crews use up unique techniques to prepare the forming and pouring of concrete. The design of the park entails the shape of a Laker passing under a lift bridge.

Algom Central Corporation has been awarded the naming rights of the Skate & BMX Park and the infamous name ALGOPORT will be placed on the ground and the name of the Skate & BMX Park. The take away will be coloured in Algom's standard Algoma Blue with the deck being Algom's Red.

Several other sponsors have come aboard such as Webster Marine, Bell Marine, George Badway Marine Supplies, International Marine Salvage, Marine Clean, SL Lawrence Sawmy Management Corporation and Snider Dock Services. Other Sponsorship opportunities are available. If you or your company is interested in sponsoring the Port Colborne Skate & BMX Park, please contact Mr. Robert Hall at 905-835-2900 ext. 306.

Christmas in Port



PORT COLBORNE
WWW.PORTCOLBORNE.CA

EVENTS CALENDAR

DECEMBER 1***The Port Colborne Lioness******present "Breakfast with Santa"***

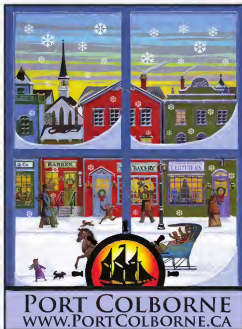
Seating's at 9am and 10:30am for a pancake breakfast, including coffee or juice and a visit with Santa at the Lion's Hall. Tickets are \$6 and may be purchased at Tuck's Jewelers or from a Lioness.

Santa Arrives Downtown by Tugboat at 1pm

Experience a tradition unique to our city as Santa arrives in Port Colborne – on the deck of a tugboat in the Welland Canal. Greet Santa along with the McKay school Choir on West Street at the Harbourmaster House. Have your child's picture taken with Santa from 1:30-3:00 pm at the Guild Hall.

Port Colborne's Annual Lighted Santa Claus Parade.

Saturday December 1st 2012 beginning at 6:30pm from Port Colborne High School and travelling south on Steele Street to Clarence Street to West Street. Making its way south on West Street to Charlotte Street, the parade will then travel west on Charlotte Street to end at the Market Square, in front of City Hall. Children are then welcome to visit with Santa in the Guild Hall and enjoy hot chocolate. Port Colborne Optimist Club will be collecting non-perishable food donations along the route for the Food Bank.

**DECEMBER 2*****The Roselawn Centre Presents Food and Wine at Roselawn***

A spectacular five-course gourmet meal in the Roselawn Dining-room featuring Pondview Estate Winery.

\$85.00 per person. 6:30pm. For more information call the Roselawn Box office at 905-834-7572

Grand Old Christmas Festival

Noon to 4pm at the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum. Enjoy Christmas music, hot apple cider and roasted chestnuts as the children have their photo taken with Santa. Experience a true traditional treat – visit Arabella's Tea Room for a hot cup of tea and Christmas

pudding. For more information call 905-834-7604.

DECEMBER 5-10***Pudding and Sauce week at Arabella's Tea Room***

Arabella's Tea Room serves Christmas pudding and sauce all week. Located at the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum. For more information call 905-834-7604.

DECEMBER 26***Boxing Week Sales Begin***

Downtown Port Colborne – Individual shop hours and days of operation may vary.

DECEMBER 31***Kidz New Year's Eve Carnival presented by Ingredion Canada Incorporated***

Ring in the New Year with free skating, face painting, cookie decorating, games, a shootout competition and a Mad Scientist show. From 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. at Westside Arena. Join us for a fireworks display in the field beside the Westside Arena at 5:30 p.m.

For more information, visit us at www.portcolborne.ca

■ **TRADITION:** Festival has been running for 36 years

Grand old time at the Port museum

LINDSAY COSTELLO
For InPort News

PORT COLBORNE
— History comes to life as past holiday traditions are highlighted annually.

Port Colborne's Historical and Marine Museum is hosting its 36th annual Grand Old Christmas Festival on Dec. 2. Running from noon until 4 p.m. at the King St. facility, the event is open to all ages and provides fun for the whole family.

Visitors can stroll through the museum grounds and take in the old-fashioned atmosphere while participating in seasonal and traditional activities of years past.

Team up and try your hand at operating a crosscut saw and visit the blacksmith shop to have your wood branded with a stamp, print a Christmas card using the heritage press or dip your own candle.

Team up and try your hand at operating a crosscut saw and visit the blacksmith shop to have your wood branded with a stamp, or print a Christmas card using the heritage press.

Santa and his elves will be on hand to spread Christmas cheer during the festival. They can be seen fireside in the log Schoolhouse, posing for photographs and visiting with attendees.

Horse-drawn carriage rides will take visitors around the block and bring out the old-fashioned feel the festival is known for and school choirs will be on the grounds providing entertainment by singing festive songs.

Seasonal treats will also be on the menu with the flavours of hot apple cider and roasted chestnuts being enjoyed throughout the afternoon.

One of the festival's main draws is the serving of Christmas pudding and hot tea available in Arabella's Tea Room. Volunteers prepare homemade dishes of the dessert and accompany the treat with cups of hot tea.

Now this year is the holiday exhibit, Putting the Tea in Christmas, a display designed to emphasize the tradition of holiday tea drinking and centers around a Christmas tree adorned with teacups. The festive exhibit is just one of the historical displays that can be seen inside the museum's main building.

Although the Grand Old Christmas Festival marks the museum's last event of the season, the facility will remain open to the public until Dec. 20.



LINDSAY COSTELLO InPort News Photo
Horse-drawn carriage rides were available for \$1 during the Port Colborne Museum's 36th annual Grand Old Christmas Festival on Sunday, allowing visitors to try a traditional form of transportation as they rode around the block.



From our family to yours....

On behalf of members of City Council and City Staff, may I extend to you and your family best wishes throughout the Holiday Season.

During this wonderful time of year, all roads lead home. Enjoy and nurture the time with your family and friends and please support our local businesses as they support our community all year round.

Mayor Vance Badawey



Our Community celebrates the Holidays together

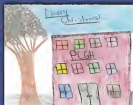
Thank you to all the children who submitted Port Colborne Christmas art for the City's 2012 Christmas card. These five images were chosen. Congratulations to Desiree, Kathryn, Audrey, Alexandra and Rebekah who will be featured on the Mayor's Float in the Christmas Parade on December 1st.



ALEX KLAUCK,
Grade 6, St. Patrick School



DESIREE MACEACHERN,
Grade 6, St. Patrick School



HAILEY MULLIGH,
Grade 6, St. Therese School



MARIAH ROBINSON,
Grade 6, St. Patrick School



MEGAN SARDELLA,
Grade 6, Dewitt Carter School

■ **PARADE:** Floats will be lit up

People get ready — here comes Santa Claus

LINDSAY COSTELLO
For InPort News

PORT COLBORNE — Tradition continues as the sights and sounds of the holiday season fill Port Colborne's downtown core on Saturday evening.

The City of Port Colborne's annual lighted Christmas parade will kick off at 6:30 p.m. and promises to bring about a sense of community spirit and fun as various groups and organizations put themselves and their handy work on display.

Beginning at 6:30 p.m. and taking place in the dark of night, Port Colborne's Christmas parade is the longest running of its kind in the region.

Holding the parade at night allows floats and participants to shine and stand out among the crowd. Having been a part of the community festivities for more than

Parade-goers are welcome to close out the evening by visiting the Guild Hall to spend time with Santa and enjoy a cup of hot chocolate.

10 years, the annual parade is well attended and helps to kick off the holiday season in the lakeside city.

Businesses and homes along the route are often decorated to celebrate the season and crowds line the streets to get a glimpse of the floats as they pass.

The City of Port Colborne is anticipating between 40 and 50 float entries this year, which will make for a spectacle that lasts about one hour.

The procession begins at Port Colborne High School and travels south on Steele St. before turning and heading east on Clarence St. Once the floats reach West St., they will turn right and travel south towards Charlotte St. where they will stop and unload once they reach the Market Square.

The Port Colborne Optimist Club will be collecting non-perishable food items along the route to donate to the local food bank.

Although the parade will finish at approximately 7:30 p.m., the celebration doesn't stop at the end of the route.

Parade-goers are welcome to close out the evening by visiting the Guild Hall to spend time with Santa and enjoy a cup of hot chocolate.

Don't miss out on this fun-filled annual tradition. Head downtown and take in the sights.



LINDSAY COSTELLO InPort News Photo
Santa and his reindeer closed out the lighted evening parade in Port Colborne.

Picture with Santa!

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■ **WELAND CANAL:** Pilot boat brings in Santa

Santa trades sleigh for tug

LINDSAY COSTELLO
For InPort News

PORT COLBORNE — It's full steam ahead for jolly old Saint Nick as he kicks off the holiday season in true Port Colborne fashion.

Santa Claus will abandon his sleigh again this year as he descends on the lakeside city, travelling through the Welland Canal aboard the J.W. Cooper tugboat on Saturday afternoon.

A tradition in Port Colborne for more than 10 years, the tugboat arrival is fun for the whole family as it provides residents with a unique way to celebrate the holiday season while embracing the city's marine heritage.

The one-of-a-kind event is orchestrated by Port Colborne's Downtown Business Improvement Area and is sure to draw a crowd.

Viewers will line historic

West St. as they anticipate Santa's arrival, which is scheduled for 1 p.m. but may vary slightly depending on canal traffic.

Upon arrival, Santa will disembark near the Harbourmaster's House where members of the Music Depot choir will greet him with seasonal tunes. The man of the hour will take a few moments to greet onlookers before making his way down West St. The sounds of bagpipes will fill the air as he joins a piper and begins leading the crowd towards the Guild Hall on Charlotte St. where more fun awaits.

Ten Thousand Villages will provide visitors with fair trade hot chocolate to enjoy while they participate in a craft project and listen to carols inside the hall. Santa will also continue to partake in the festivities, greeting children and posing for photos between 1:30 and 3 p.m.

BATTERY COLLECTION

Niagara Region charged up

InPort News Staff

WELLAND — Niagara Region is buzzing about the success of its recent curbside battery pickup program.

The region was one of the first municipalities in Ontario to take on the pilot program, with household batteries collected from Oct. 2 to Nov.

2 in Welland, Port Colborne and Pelham. During the two-week period, 2,509 kilograms of batteries were collected.

"Niagara Region is consistently seeking ways to improve waste diversion and curbside collection options for residents," said Regional Chair Gary Burroughs in a news release.



LINDSAY COSTELLO Tribune Photo
In this file photo, Santa Claus made his grand entrance in Port Colborne as he rode down the Welland Canal on the J.W. Cooper tugboat towards a crowd of onlookers.

Festival Special

\$12.49

White meat \$1.50 extra



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VALID ONLY AT 575 MAIN STREET WEST, PORT COLBORNE

Hot seller at Arabella's

LINDSAY COSTELLO
For InPort News

PORT COLBORNE — Traditional treats are on the menu this holiday season as volunteers prepare to serve up pudding and sauce this December.

Tucked away on the grounds of Port Colborne's Historical and Marine Museum, the tearoom gets its name-sake from the late Arabella Williams who owned the King St. lot. The building was once a small cottage-style home and is now a place where residents and tourists can relax and enjoy a beverage and a snack.

The Edwardian-era themed tearoom was established in 1977, two years after the museum's inception, and has become a unique place to get away and embrace tradition.

During the wintertime, volunteers dress in traditional garb and serve the much sought after Christmas pudding each year.

Between the Historical and Marine Museum's Grand Old Christmas Festival and its very own pudding and sauce week, Arabella's Tea Room will be doling out hundreds of portions of the pudding during the busy holiday season.

Visitors can stop by the tearoom between noon and 4 p.m. on Dec. 1 during the museum's annual festival for a serving of pudding and a hot cup of tea for only \$4.

The pudding is a hot commodity during this time as patrons often line up for a chance to sample the handmade treat.

Visitors who miss out during the festival or are hoping to score a second helping are in for a treat because Arabella's also offers its Pudding and Sauce week before it close up for the season.

Open between 2 and 4 p.m.



LINDSAY COSTELLO InPort News Photo
Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum curator Stephanie Powell Baswick shows some of the Christmas pudding for sale.

each day from Dec. 3 to Dec. 8, the facility will close out the holiday

season in traditional style, satisfying Christmas pudding cravings during

Shopper's Week

Indulge in the flavours of

Christmas past and head to Arabella's Tea Room this season.

Fresh Christmas Trees
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■ DOWNTOWN BIA

Moonlight Madness in downtown Port

LINDSAY COSTELLO
For InPort News

PORT COLBORNE — You don't have to go out of town to get what you need.

Port Colborne's Downtown Business Improvement Area hopes to bring increased traffic to the city's downtown core with events and

incentives for shoppers.

You may be able to finish your holiday shopping list without leaving the city with the help of local establishments.

On Dec. 7, retailers will participate in a Moonlight Madness event in which several area shops will keep their doors open into the evening to accommodate those who wish

to do some late night gift hunting.

Moonlight Madness follows the success of the Downtown Christmas Open House, an event held in early November that helped familiarize shoppers with what the city has to offer this holiday season.

"There are quite a variety of experiences and

shops," said Downtown Marketing Coordinator Jeff Ballin, adding West St. is a nice attraction with ships passing through the canal and the character of the old buildings.

"We have a very vibrant downtown," he said.

While the City of Port Colborne has added holiday cheer to the streets

by hanging wreaths, many retailers are taking it upon themselves to add additional décor to their storefronts and displays.

Throughout the month of December, the Downtown BIA will spread more holiday cheer by offering free two-hour parking. It is a great time to explore the

town without having to worry about feeding your parking meters.

Boxing week sales will also be available at select retailers.

For detailed information and updates regarding BIA events, visit www.downtownportcolborne.com or search Downtown Port Colborne on Facebook.

■ **HEALTH CARE:** Innovative treatments available in Buffalo

Cross-border services pitched

ALLAN BENNER
Tribune Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Dr. Nick Hopkins recalled a stroke patient who arrived the Gates Vascular Institute paralyzed and unable to speak.

Not long ago, that patient would have spent her remaining years in a nursing home — if she patient survived.

Instead, she walked out of the hospital a day later to carry on with a normal life. One that Hopkins learned recently

included participation in a San Diego marathon six months after she was discharged from the Buffalo Institute.

"This is the kind of result we can get," Hopkins said, adding it's an example of "a whole new paradigm for the treatment of acute stroke" offered over the river.

"Right now there's no place in southern Ontario where you can get that kind of treatment."

Hopkins was one of several physicians and health care adminis-

trators from Kaleida Health hospital system in Buffalo as well as the University of Rochester Medical Centre who visited Port Colborne Monday to meet with South Niagara Health Care Corp. to discuss the benefits of crossing the border to access medical services that are not available locally.

South Niagara Health Care Corp. general manager Joanne Ferraccioli said that kind partnership is not without precedent.

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■ **EVENT:** Annual Lioness fundraiser

Have breakfast with Santa, courtesy of the Lionesses

LINDSAY COSTELLO
For InPort News

PORT COLBORNE — Share a meal with Santa Claus this Christmas.

The Port Colborne Lioness is looking forward to a roaring success this holiday season as they bring their annual Breakfast With Santa to the lakeside city on Dec. 1.

In its 14th year, the event is one of the group's major fundraising events and kicks off a full day of holiday fun, taking place before Santa's tughout arrival and the annual lighted Christmas parade downtown.

Breakfast includes a serving of pancakes, sausage, and coffee or juice as well as a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus who will present children with a

small gift. Tickets can be purchased for \$6 each. Photos with Santa will also be available for a small fee.

Two sittings are scheduled at the Lion's Community Centre at 49 Chippawa Rd., the first at 9 a.m. and the second at 10:30 a.m.

In addition to the meal, two large stockings will also be raffled off throughout the morn-

ing. The stockings have been filled with gifts and one winner will be chosen per sitting. Raffle tickets can be purchased for \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

Proceeds from the entire event will benefit the various organizations and initiatives the Lioness women support throughout the year. The group does its part to give back during the holiday season by

donating time and money to local programs. Some of their efforts include monetary contributions to the Port Colborne Hospital Foundation's Ribbon of Lights campaign and the community Christmas dinner at Port Colborne High School as well as a donation of baked goods to the Meals on Wheels program.

Tickets for the breakfast

were sold in advance. Although the event is popular and serves several hundred people each year, the Lioness do their best to accommodate walk-ins and there is a possibility of tickets still being available at the door.

If you missed out on advance tickets you can contact the hall by calling 905-834-6863 on the morning of the event to inquire about availability.



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■ **GRAND OLD CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL:** Volunteers at work

LINDSAY COSTELLO InPort News Photo

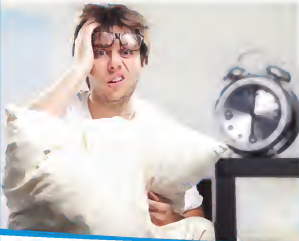
In this file photo, Jim Martin and Frank Flake volunteered in the blacksmith's building and branded wooden disks to commemorate the Grand Old Christmas Festival at the Port Colborne Museum.

■ **SANTA CLAUS PARADE:** Music to their ears

LINDSAY COSTELLO InPort News Photo

In this file photo, Port Colborne High School's music teacher Derrick Stickney, left, conducts the Blue Bear band as they brought live music to the parade.

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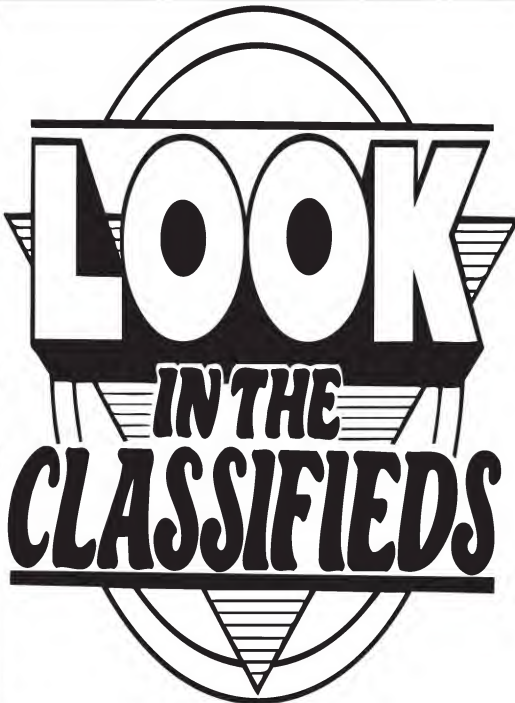


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■ **PRACTICE:** Welland firm takes over John Tuck's practice

Longtime lawyer says goodbye

SARAH FERGUSON
inPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — The community said goodbye to John Tuck, who has been practising law for 40 years.

But Port Colborne welcomed lawyers Paul Leon and Angelo Fazari, of Leon and Fazari, who held a celebration at Tuck's former firm at 84 West St. last week.

The lawyers have been practising since 1973 at their firm at 149 West Main St., in Welland, which they opened in 1993.

"We are excited to be a part of a vibrant and exciting community," Leon said about expanding their service to Port Colborne residents.

Leon has known Tuck for many years, and when he learned his friend was retiring, he was "happy to come to Port Colborne" and take over the business.

"John wanted to retire, but he still wanted to see his client base served. He needed to make sure his clients are comfortable," Leon said, adding that both he

and Fazari are Welland-born and understand the needs of both communities.

"Angelo and I are perfect for the job. We are conscientious, service-oriented and we work hard to get results."

Leon deals with business while Fazari handles criminal and civil litigation. Brian Miller, a lawyer from Port Erie, represents the firm and deals with private and commercial real estate as well as working with individuals on developing subdivisions.

Tuck, who was born in Welland, is a member of various service organizations, including former president of the Rotary Club of Port Colborne.

He said he will still have an office at the firm and act as a consultant.

He said he loved his job and being a part of the community. What drew him to the career was the challenge of solving cases.

"I liked the puzzles. There was always a good puzzle to solve," he said.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca



Inbune Staff

Lawyers Paul Leon and Angelo Fazari celebrated the grand opening of their new law practice in Port Colborne. The lawyers have taken over the law practice of John Tuck at 84 West Main St. From left, Mayor Vance Badaway holds the ribbon as Leon cuts it during a celebratory party last Thursday evening. Standing beside them are Brian Miller, a lawyer with the practice, Tuck and Fazari.

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